

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 CIAE-00
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R 312129Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS STATE 137881

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA, UR

SUBJECT: JAPANESE-SOVIET JOINT VENTURES

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA, COMMERCE HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION THAT THE JAPANESE FISHERIES AGENCY IS PLANNING OR HAS ALREADY AUTHORIZED FIVE JOINT FISHING VENTURES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE SOVIET MINISTER OF FISHERIES ALEKSANDR A. ISHKOV, EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN SIX JOINT VENTURES TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE JAPAN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, TOMOYOSHI KAMENAGA DURING HIS STAY IN MOSCOW. THE PARTICIPATING JAPANESE COMPANIES WOULD BE ALLOWED TO CATCH SHRIMP, CRAB, ALASKA POLLOCK, AND OTHER FISH WITHIN THE 200-MILE SOVIET ECONOMIC ZONE FOR ONE YEAR STARTING IN LATE MAY 1978. IN RETURN,
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IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE JAPANESE COMPANIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY "FISHING FEES" AMOUNTING TO 25 PERCENT OF THEIR EARNINGS, BUY THE ENTIRE CATCHES OF THE PARTICIPATING SOVIET FISHERMEN, AND EXTEND TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO THE SOVIETS.

2. RADIO TOKYO ON MAY 18 STATED THAT THE FISHERIES

AGENCY WILL ALLOW FIVE JOINT VENTURES INVOLVING
SHRIMP, TANNER CRAB, BLUE KING CRAB, HORSE HAIR CRAB

AND AN UNIDENTIFIED SPECIES. THE REPORT NOTED THAT THE
AGENCY WILL ONLY PERMIT PARTICIPATION BY THOSE JAPANESE
COMPANIES WHICH HAVE FISHED WITHIN THE SOVIET 200-MILE
ECONOMIC ZONE IN THE PAST. JAPANESE TRADING COMPANIES
WILL BE EXCLUDED.

3. THE MAY 18 BROADCAST STATED THAT THE APPROVAL OF
THE LIBERAL-DEMOCRATIC PARTY WILL HAVE TO BE SECURED
BEFORE THE FISHERIES AGENCY CAN AUTHORIZE THESE JOINT
VENTURES.

4. NMFS WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE
UNIDENTIFIED FIFTH SPECIES, JOINT VENTURE, THE NAMES
OF THE PARTICIPATING JAPANESE COMPANIES AND WHETHER
THE JOINT VENTURES HAVE BEGUN AS SCHEDULED? FINALLY,
WILL JAPAN OBTAIN AN ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION OF FISH
IN THE SOVIET 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE THROUGH THESE
JOINT VENTURES? VANCE

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